

# Gradient Descent

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Nipun Batra

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IIT Gandhinagar

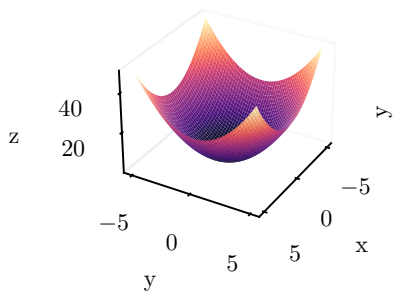
# Revision

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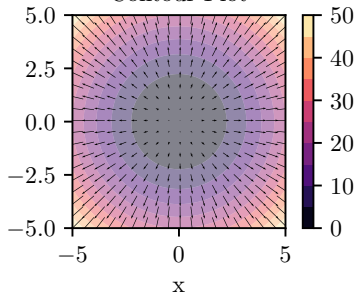
# Contour Plot And Gradients

$$z = f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$$

Surface Plot



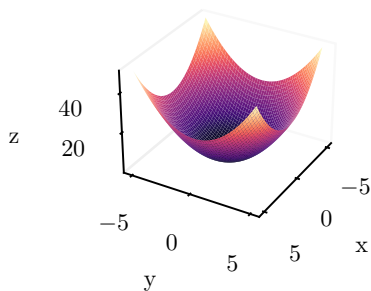
Contour Plot



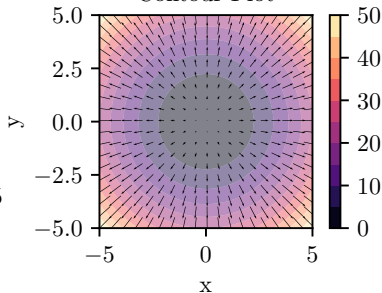
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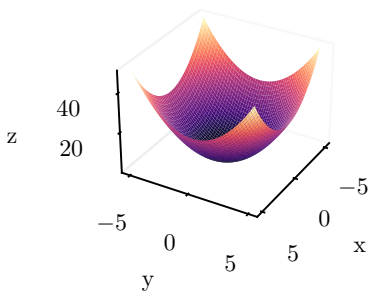


Gradient denotes the direction of steepest ascent or the direction in which there is a maximum increase in  $f(x,y)$

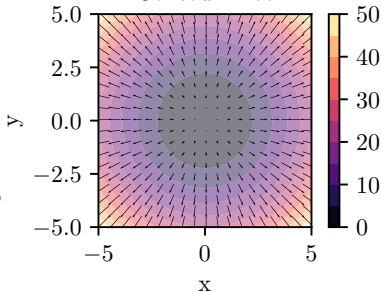
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$$\nabla f(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f(x,y)}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial f(x,y)}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2x \\ 2y \end{bmatrix}$$

# Introduction

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# Optimization algorithms

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- Note, here  $\theta$  is the parameter vector

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- Goal:

$$\theta^* = \arg \min_{\theta} f(\theta) \quad (2)$$

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- It is an iterative algorithm
- It is a first order optimization algorithm
- It is a local search algorithm/greedy

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- where  $\nabla^2 f(\vec{x}_0)$  is the Hessian matrix and  $\nabla f(\vec{x}_0)$  is the gradient vector

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- We can write the second order Taylor's series as:
- $f(x) = 1 + 0(x - 0) + \frac{-1}{2!}(x - 0)^2 = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2}$

- Let us consider another example:  $f(x) = x^2 + 2$  and  $x_0 = 2$

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- Question: How does the first order Taylor's series approximation look like?
- First order Taylor's series approximation is given by:
- $f(x) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x - x_0) = 6 + 4(x - 2) = 4x - 2$

## Taylor's Series (Alternative form)

- We have:

$$f(x) = f(x_0) + \frac{f'(x_0)}{1!}(x - x_0) + \frac{f''(x_0)}{2!}(x - x_0)^2 + \dots \quad (5)$$



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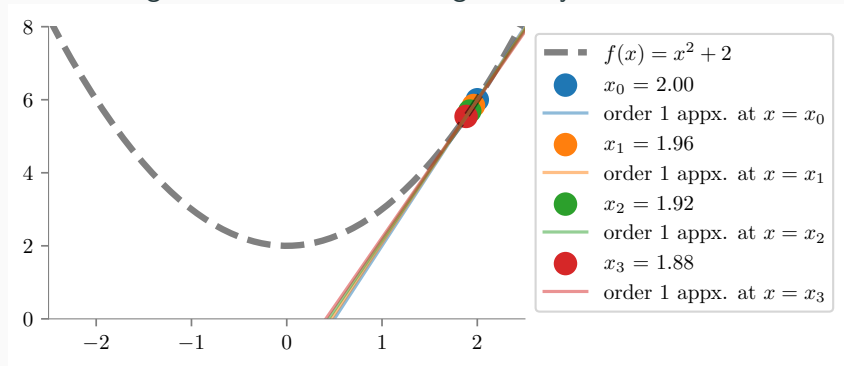
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- This happens when  $\Delta \vec{x} = -\alpha \nabla f(\vec{x}_0)$  where  $\alpha$  is a scalar
- This is the gradient descent algorithm:  $\vec{x}_1 = \vec{x}_0 - \alpha \nabla f(\vec{x}_0)$

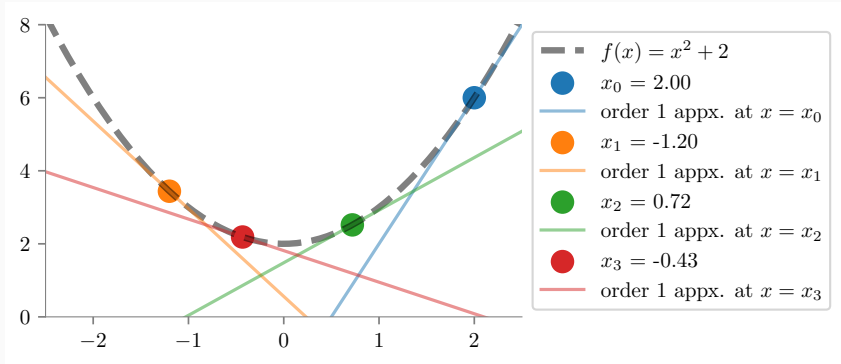
# Effect of learning rate

Low learning rate  $\alpha = 0.01$  : Converges slowly



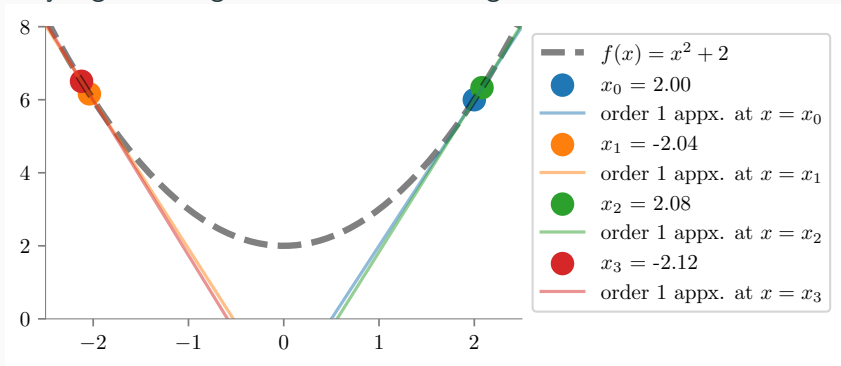
## Effect of learning rate

High learning rate  $\alpha = 0.8$ : Converges quickly, but might overshoot



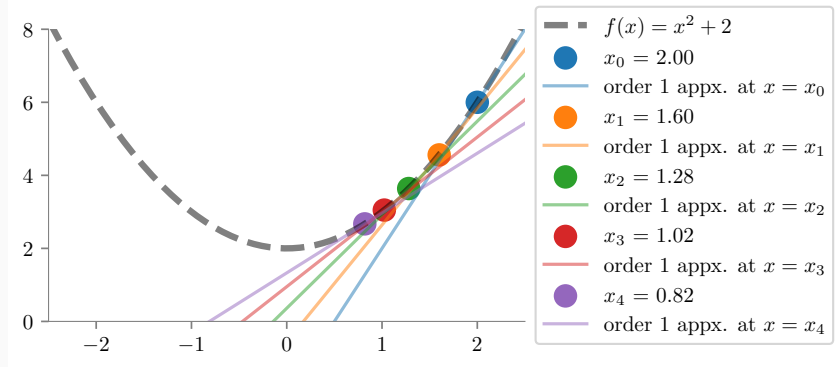
## Effect of learning rate

Very high learning rate  $\alpha = 1.01$ : Diverges



# Effect of learning rate

Appropriate learning rate  $\alpha = 0.1$



## Gradient Descent for linear regression

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- Mean Squared Error  $MSE(\theta) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (f(x_i|\theta) - y_i)^2$
- **Objective function** is the most general term for any function that you optimize during training.

## Gradient Descent : Example

Learn  $y = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x$  on following dataset, using gradient descent where initially  $(\theta_0, \theta_1) = (4, 0)$  and step-size,  $\alpha = 0.1$ , for 2 iterations.

x	y
1	1
2	2
3	3

## Gradient Descent : Example

Our predictor,  $\hat{y} = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x$

Error for  $i^{th}$  datapoint,  $\epsilon_i = y_i - \hat{y}_i$

$$\epsilon_1 = 1 - \theta_0 - \theta_1$$

$$\epsilon_2 = 2 - \theta_0 - 2\theta_1$$

$$\epsilon_3 = 3 - \theta_0 - 3\theta_1$$

$$\text{MSE} = \frac{\epsilon_1^2 + \epsilon_2^2 + \epsilon_3^2}{3} = \frac{14 + 3\theta_0^2 + 14\theta_1^2 - 12\theta_0 - 28\theta_1 + 12\theta_0\theta_1}{3}$$

## Difference between SSE and MSE

$\sum \epsilon_i^2$  increases as the number of examples increase

So, we use MSE

$$MSE = \frac{1}{n} \sum \epsilon_i^2$$

Here  $n$  denotes the number of samples



## Gradient Descent : Example

$$\frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_0} = \frac{2 \sum_i (y_i - \theta_0 - \theta_1 x_i) (-1)}{N} = \frac{2 \sum_i \epsilon_i (-1)}{N}$$

$$\frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_1} = \frac{2 \sum_i (y_i - \theta_0 - \theta_1 x_i) (-x_i)}{N} = \frac{2 \sum_i \epsilon_i (-x_i)}{N}$$

# Gradient Descent : Example

## Iteration 1

$$\theta_0 = \theta_0 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_0}$$

$$\theta_1 = \theta_1 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_1}$$

# Gradient Descent : Example

## Iteration 1

$$\theta_0 = \theta_0 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_0}$$

$$\theta_0 = 4 - 0.2 \frac{((1-(4+0))(-1) + (2-(4+0))(-1) + (3-(4+0))(-1))}{3}$$

$$\theta_0 = 3.6$$

$$\theta_1 = \theta_1 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_1}$$

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$$\theta_1 = 0 - 0.2 \frac{((1-(4+0))(-1) + (2-(4+0))(-2) + (3-(4+0))(-3))}{3}$$

$$\theta_1 = -0.67$$

## Gradient Descent : Example

### Iteration 2

$$\theta_0 = \theta_0 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_0}$$

$$\theta_1 = \theta_1 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_1}$$

# Gradient Descent : Example

## Iteration 2

$$\theta_0 = \theta_0 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_0}$$

$$\theta_0 =$$

$$3.6 - 0.2 \frac{((1 - (3.6 - 0.67))(-1) + (2 - (3.6 - 0.67 \times 2))(-1) + (3 - (3.6 - 0.67 \times 3))(-1))}{3}$$

$$\theta_0 = 3.54$$

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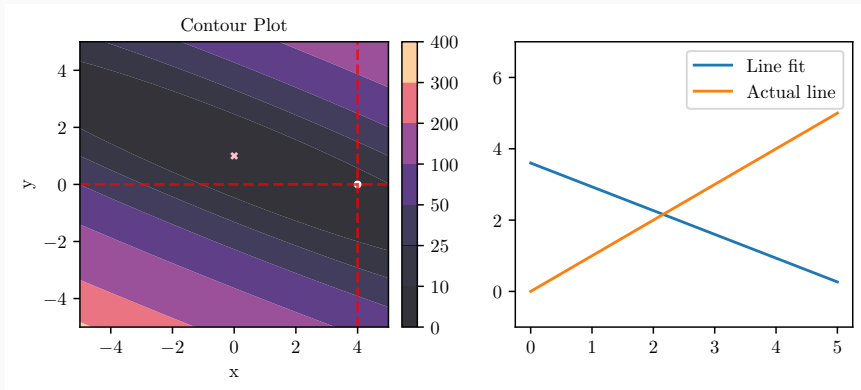
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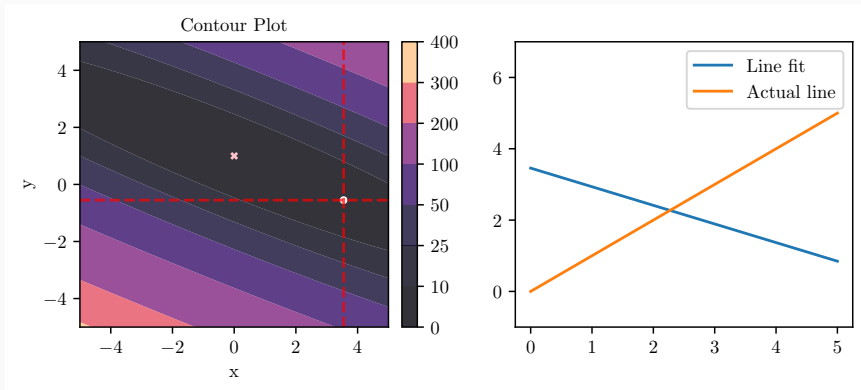
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# Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 0)

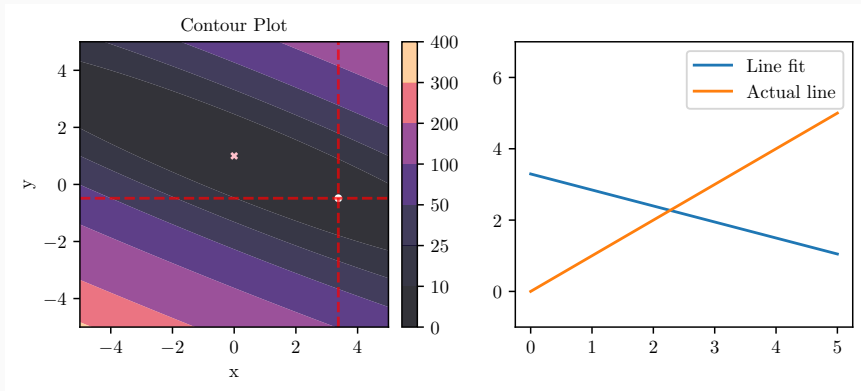




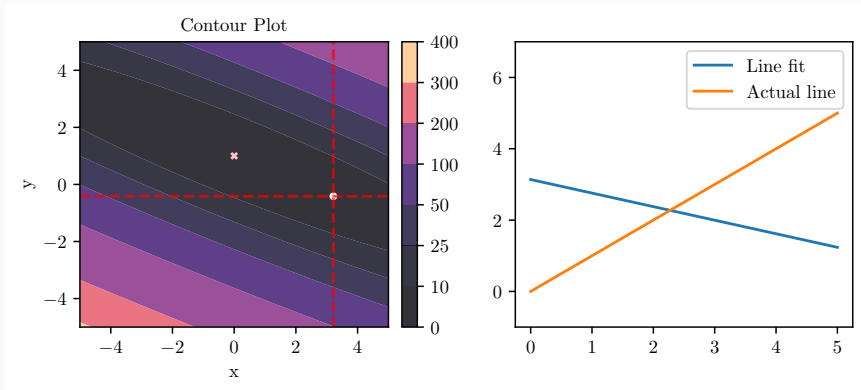
## Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 2)



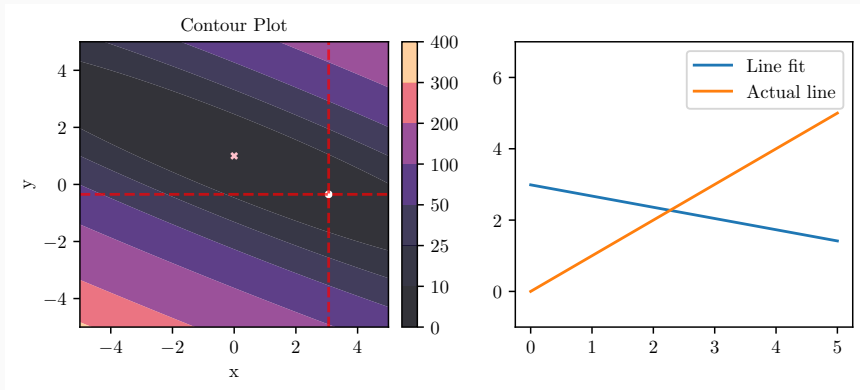
## Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 4)



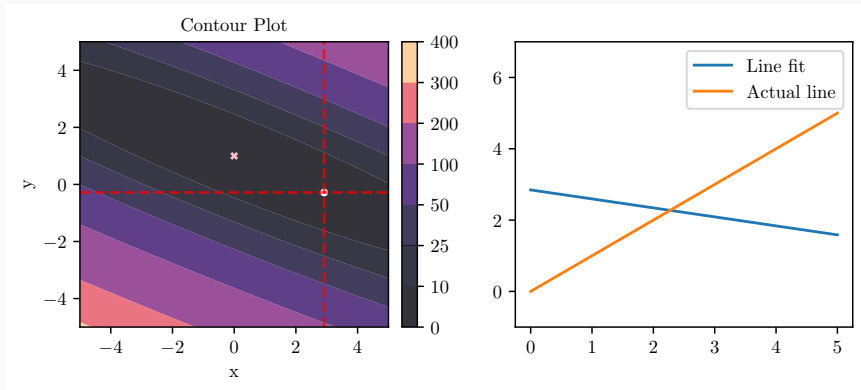
# Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 6)



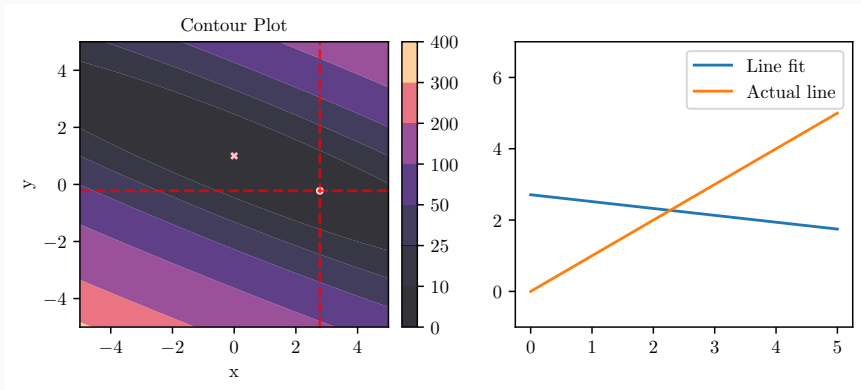
## Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 8)



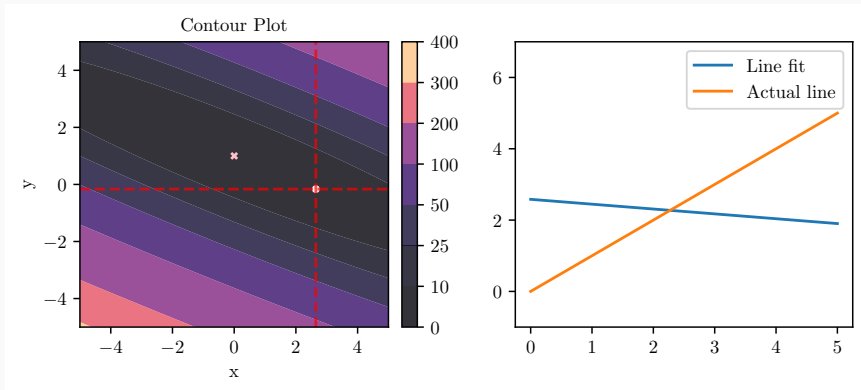
# Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 10)



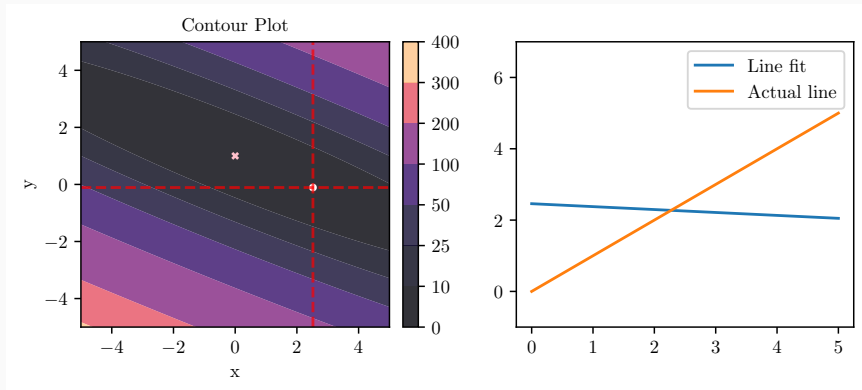
# Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 12)



# Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 14)

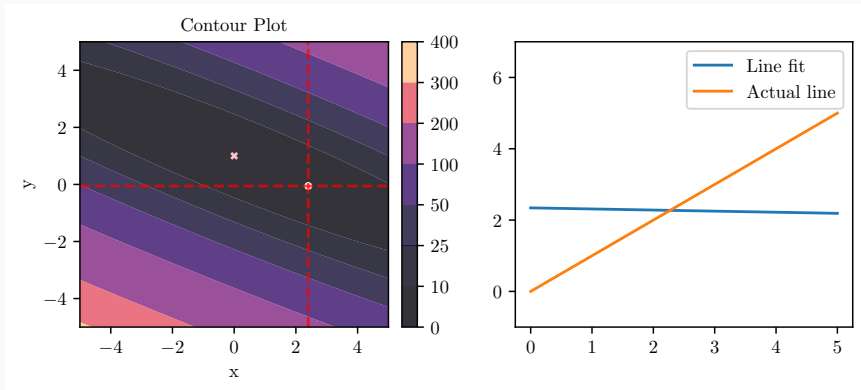


# Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 16)

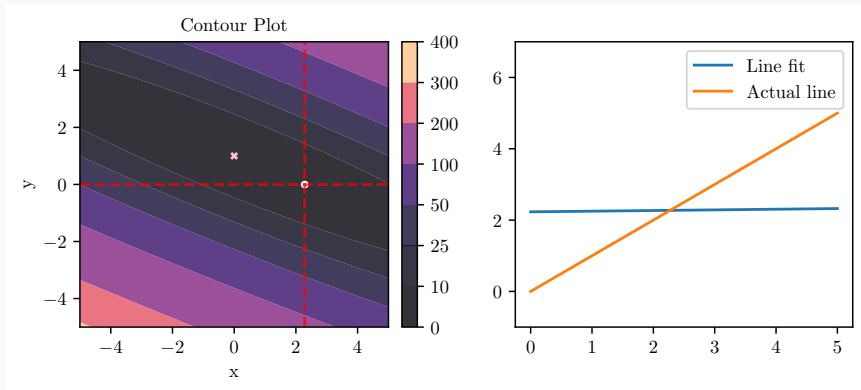




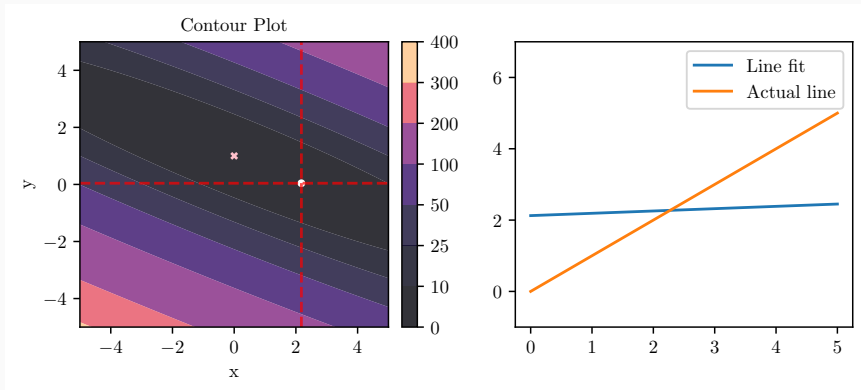
# Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 18)



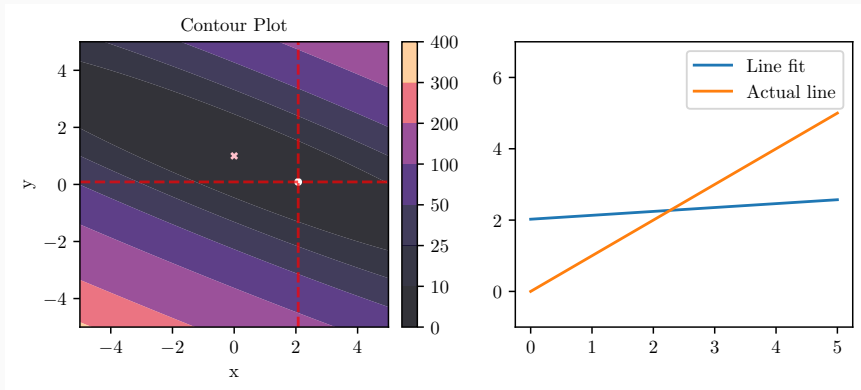
# Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 20)



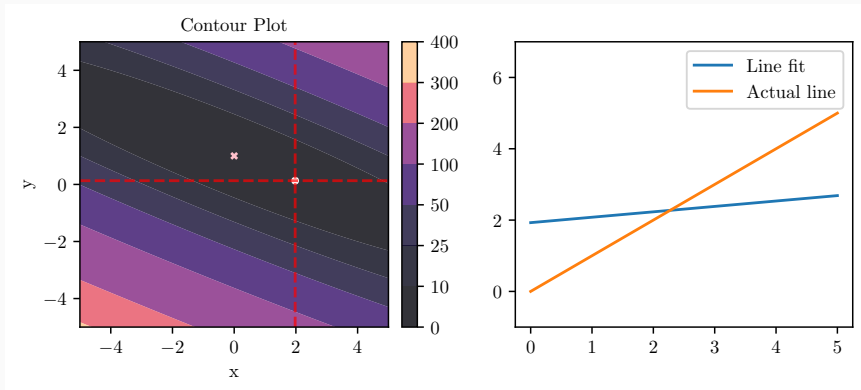
## Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 22)



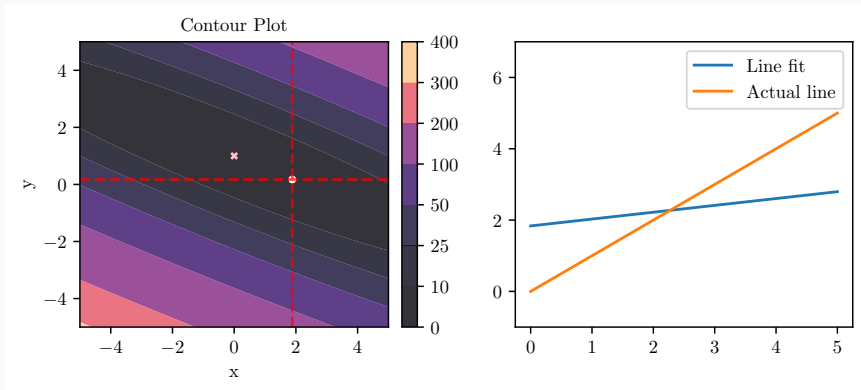
# Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 24)



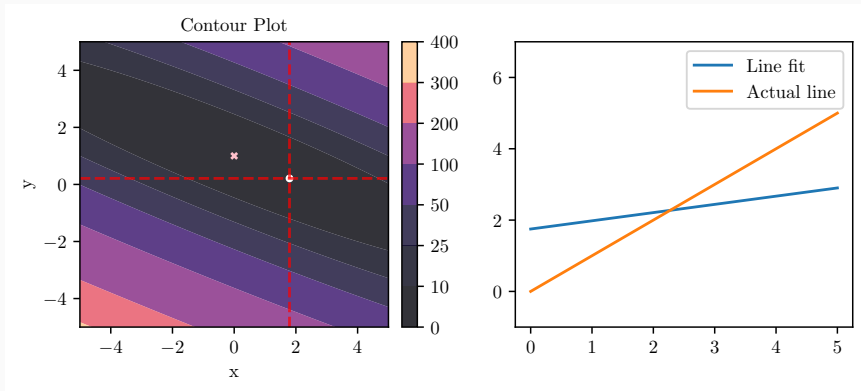
# Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 26)



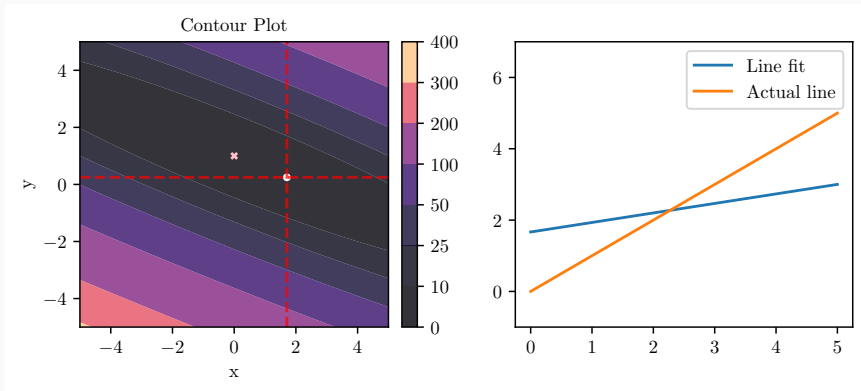
## Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 28)



# Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 30)

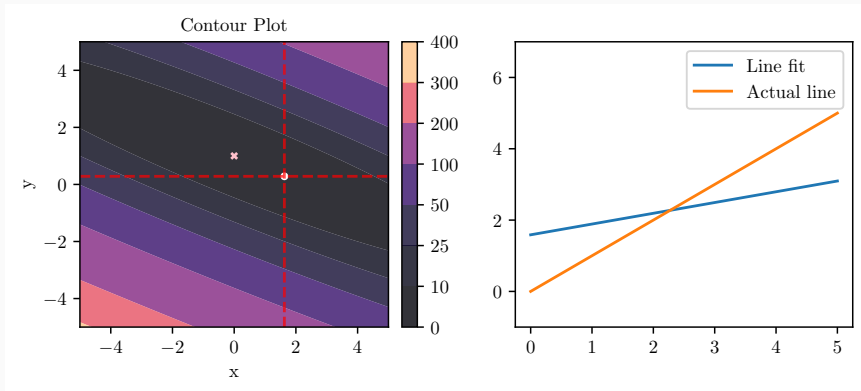


# Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 32)

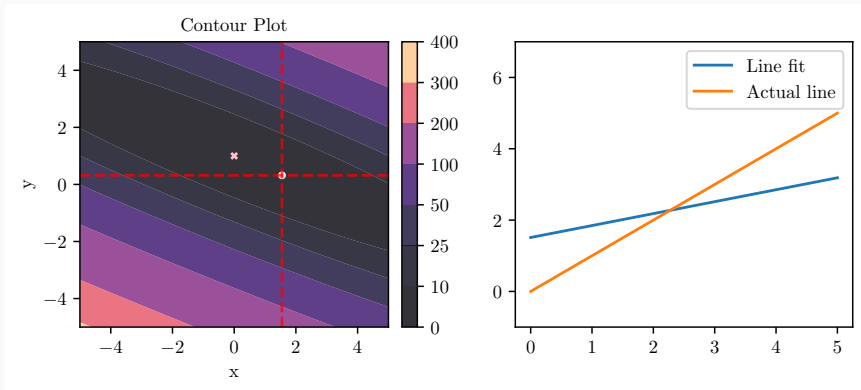




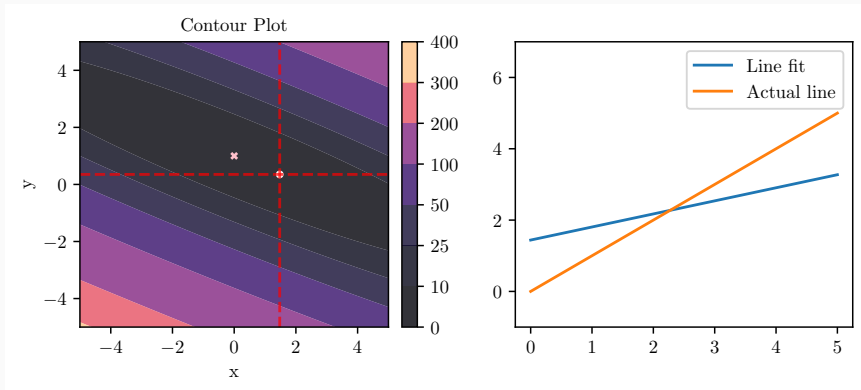
# Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 34)



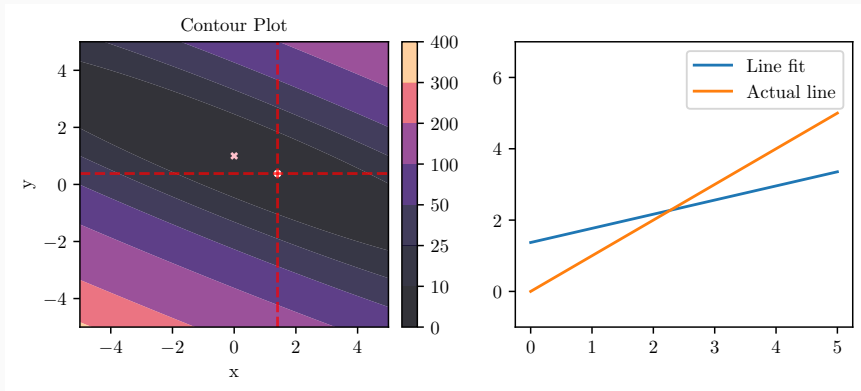
# Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 36)



# Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 38)



# Gradient Descent : Example (Iteration 40)



## Iteration v/s Epochs for gradient descent

- Iteration: Each time you update the parameters of the model

## Iteration v/s Epochs for gradient descent

- Iteration: Each time you update the parameters of the model
- Epoch: Each time you have seen all the set of examples

# Gradient Descent (GD)

- Dataset:  $D = \{(X, y)\}$  of size  $N$
- Initialize  $\theta$
- For epoch  $e$  in  $[1, E]$ 
  - Predict  $\hat{y} = \text{pred}(X, \theta)$
  - Compute loss:  $J(\theta) = \text{loss}(y, \hat{y})$
  - Compute gradient:  $\nabla J(\theta) = \text{grad}(J)(\theta)$
  - Update:  $\theta = \theta - \alpha \nabla J(\theta)$

# Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD)

- Dataset:  $D = \{(X, y)\}$  of size  $N$
- Initialize  $\theta$
- For epoch  $e$  in  $[1, E]$ 
  - Shuffle  $D$
  - For  $i$  in  $[1, N]$ 
    - Predict  $\hat{y}_i = \text{pred}(X_i, \theta)$
    - Compute loss:  $J(\theta) = \text{loss}(y_i, \hat{y}_i)$
    - Compute gradient:  $\nabla J(\theta) = \text{grad}(J)(\theta)$
    - Update:  $\theta = \theta - \alpha \nabla J(\theta)$



# Mini-Batch Gradient Descent (MBGD)

- Dataset:  $D = \{(X, y)\}$  of size  $N$
- Initialize  $\theta$
- For epoch  $e$  in  $[1, E]$ 
  - Shuffle  $D$
  - $Batches = make\_batches(D, B)$
  - For  $b$  in  $Batches$ 
    - $X\_b, y\_b = b$
    - Predict  $\hat{y}_b = pred(X\_b, \theta)$
    - Compute loss:  $J(\theta) = loss(y\_b, \hat{y}_b)$
    - Compute gradient:  $\nabla J(\theta) = grad(J)(\theta)$
    - Update:  $\theta = \theta - \alpha \nabla J(\theta)$

# Gradient Descent vs SGD

## Vanilla Gradient Descent

- in Vanilla (Batch) gradient descent: We update params after going through all the data

# Gradient Descent vs SGD

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- Smooth curve for Iteration vs Cost

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- In SGD, we update parameters after seeing each each point

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## Vanilla Gradient Descent

- in Vanilla (Batch) gradient descent: We update params after going through all the data
- Smooth curve for Iteration vs Cost
- For a single update, it needs to compute the gradient over all the samples. Hence takes more time

## Stochastic Gradient Descent

- In SGD, we update parameters after seeing each each point
- Noisier curve for iteration vs cost
- For a single update, it computes the gradient over one example. Hence lesser time



## Stochastic Gradient Descent : Example

Learn  $y = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x$  on following dataset, using SGD where initially  $(\theta_0, \theta_1) = (4, 0)$  and step-size,  $\alpha = 0.1$ , for 1 epoch (3 iterations).

<b>x</b>	<b>y</b>
2	2
3	3
1	1

## Stochastic Gradient Descent : Example

Our predictor,  $\hat{y} = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x$

Error for  $i^{th}$  datapoint,  $e_i = y_i - \hat{y}_i$

$$\epsilon_1 = 2 - \theta_0 - 2\theta_1$$

$$\epsilon_2 = 3 - \theta_0 - 3\theta_1$$

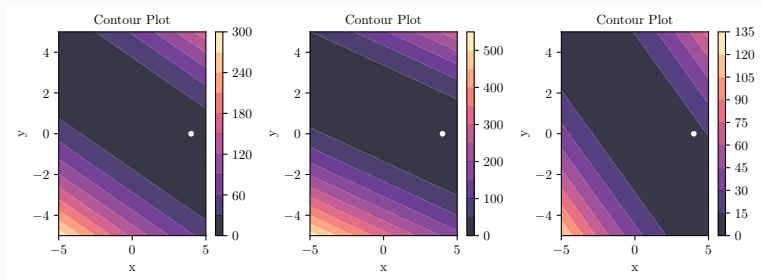
$$\epsilon_3 = 1 - \theta_0 - \theta_1$$

While using SGD, we compute the MSE using only 1 datapoint per iteration.

So MSE is  $\epsilon_1^2$  for iteration 1 and  $\epsilon_2^2$  for iteration 2.

# Stochastic Gradient Descent : Example

Contour plot of the cost functions for the three datapoints



## Stochastic Gradient Descent : Example

For Iteration  $i$

$$\frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_0} = 2 (y_i - \theta_0 - \theta_1 x_i) (-1) = 2\epsilon_i (-1)$$

$$\frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_1} = 2 (y_i - \theta_0 - \theta_1 x_i) (-x_i) = 2\epsilon_i (-x_i)$$

# Stochastic Gradient Descent : Example

## Iteration 1

$$\theta_0 = \theta_0 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_0}$$

$$\theta_1 = \theta_1 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_1}$$

# Stochastic Gradient Descent : Example

## Iteration 1

$$\theta_0 = \theta_0 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_0}$$

$$\theta_0 = 4 - 0.1 \times 2 \times (2 - (4 + 0))(-1)$$

$$\theta_0 = 3.6$$

$$\theta_1 = \theta_1 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_1}$$

# Stochastic Gradient Descent : Example

## Iteration 1

$$\theta_0 = \theta_0 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_0}$$

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$$\theta_0 = 3.6$$

$$\theta_1 = \theta_1 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_1}$$

$$\theta_1 = 0 - 0.1 \times 2 \times (2 - (4 + 0))(-2)$$

$$\theta_1 = -0.8$$

## Iteration 2

$$\theta_0 = \theta_0 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_0}$$

$$\theta_1 = \theta_1 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_1}$$



## Iteration 2

$$\theta_0 = \theta_0 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_0}$$

$$\theta_0 = 3.6 - 0.1 \times 2 \times (3 - (3.6 - 0.8 \times 3))(-1)$$

$$\theta_0 = 3.96$$

$$\theta_1 = \theta_1 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_1}$$

## Stochastic Gradient Descent : Example

### Iteration 2

$$\theta_0 = \theta_0 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_0}$$

$$\theta_0 = 3.6 - 0.1 \times 2 \times (3 - (3.6 - 0.8 \times 3))(-1)$$

$$\theta_0 = 3.96$$

$$\theta_1 = \theta_1 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_1}$$

$$\theta_1 = -0.8 - 0.1 \times 2 \times (3 - (3.6 - 0.8 \times 3))(-3)$$

$$\theta_1 = 0.28$$

## Iteration 3

$$\theta_0 = \theta_0 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_0}$$

$$\theta_1 = \theta_1 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_1}$$

## Iteration 3

$$\theta_0 = \theta_0 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_0}$$

$$\theta_0 = 3.96 - 0.1 \times 2 \times (1 - (3.96 + 0.28 \times 1))(-1)$$

$$\theta_0 = 3.312$$

$$\theta_1 = \theta_1 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_1}$$

## Stochastic Gradient Descent : Example

### Iteration 3

$$\theta_0 = \theta_0 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_0}$$

$$\theta_0 = 3.96 - 0.1 \times 2 \times (1 - (3.96 + 0.28 \times 1))(-1)$$

$$\theta_0 = 3.312$$

$$\theta_1 = \theta_1 - \alpha \frac{\partial MSE}{\partial \theta_1}$$

$$\theta_1 = 0.28 - 0.1 \times 2 \times (1 - (3.96 + 0.28 \times 1))(-1)$$

$$\theta_1 = -0.368$$

**Stochastic gradient is an unbiased estimator of the true gradient**

---

Based on Estimation Theory and Machine Learning by Florian Hartmann

- Let us say we have a dataset  $\mathcal{D}$  containing input output pairs  $\{(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots, (x_N, y_N)\}$

Based on Estimation Theory and Machine Learning by Florian Hartmann

- Let us say we have a dataset  $\mathcal{D}$  containing input output pairs  $\{(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots, (x_N, y_N)\}$
- We can define overall loss as:

$$L(\theta) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \text{loss}(f(x_i, \theta), y_i)$$



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- We can define overall loss as:

$$L(\theta) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \text{loss}(f(x_i, \theta), y_i)$$

- loss can be any loss function such as squared loss, cross-entropy loss etc.

$$\text{loss}(f(x_i, \theta), y_i) = (f(x_i, \theta) - y_i)^2$$

- The true gradient of the loss function is given by:

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla L &= \nabla \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \text{loss}(f(x_i), y_i) \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \nabla \text{loss}(f(x_i), y_i)\end{aligned}$$

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- The above is a consequence of linearity of the gradient operator.

## Estimator for the true gradient

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- In practice, we do not have access to the true gradient
- We can only estimate the true gradient using a subset of the data
- For SGD, we use a single example to estimate the true gradient, for mini-batch gradient descent, we use a mini-batch of examples to estimate the true gradient
- Let us say we have a sample:  $(x, y)$
- The estimated gradient is given by:

$$\nabla \tilde{L} = \nabla \text{loss}(f(x), y)$$



## Bias of the estimator

- One measure for the quality of an estimator  $\tilde{X}$  is its bias or how far off its estimate is on average from the true value  $X$  :

$$\text{bias}(X) = \mathbb{E}[\tilde{X}] - X$$

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- Using the rules of expectation, we can show that the expected value of the estimated gradient is the true gradient:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[\nabla \tilde{L}] &= \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{n} \nabla \text{loss}(f(x_i), y_i) \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \nabla \sum_{i=1}^n \text{loss}(f(x_i), y_i) \\ &= \nabla L\end{aligned}$$

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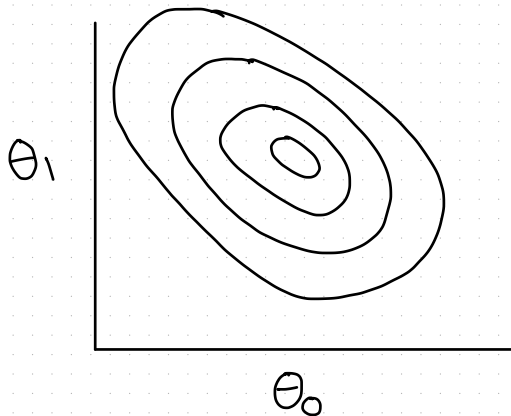
- Using the rules of expectation, we can show that the expected value of the estimated gradient is the true gradient:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[\nabla \tilde{L}] &= \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{n} \nabla \text{loss}(f(x_i), y_i) \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \nabla \sum_{i=1}^n \text{loss}(f(x_i), y_i) \\ &= \nabla L\end{aligned}$$

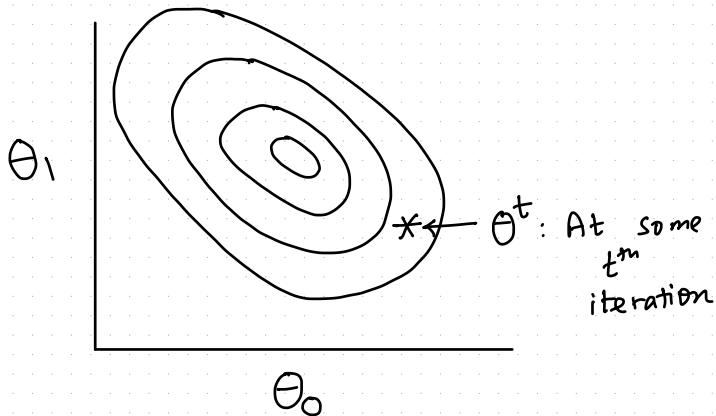
- Thus, the estimated gradient is an unbiased estimator of the true gradient

$X$	$y$
$x_1^T$	$y_1$
$\vdots$	
$x_N^T$	$y_N$

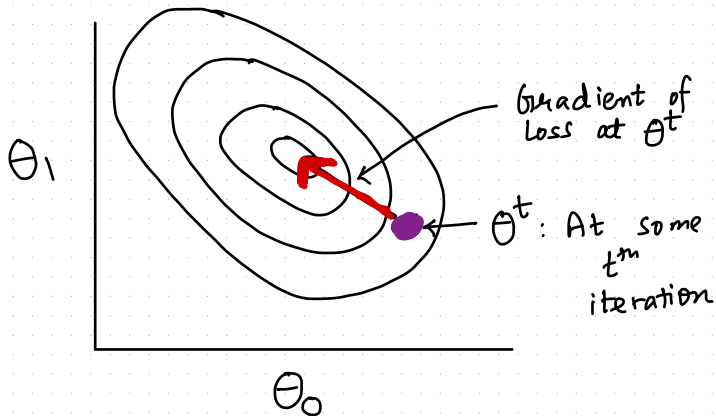
$X$	$y$	$\hat{y} = f(x, \theta)$
$\begin{array}{c} \text{--- } x_1^T \text{ ---} \\ \vdots \\ \text{--- } x_N^T \text{ ---} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_N \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \hat{y}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{y}_N \end{array}$



LOSS SURFACE OVER  
 $6N^3$  EXAMPLES



LOSS SURFACE OVER  
 $6N^{\text{th}}$  EXAMPLES

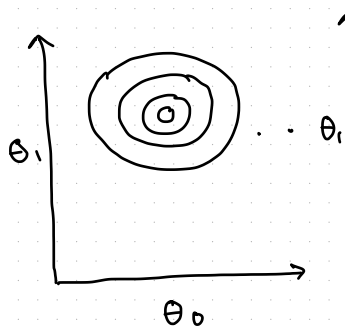


LOSS SURFACE OVER  
 $6N^2$  EXAMPLES

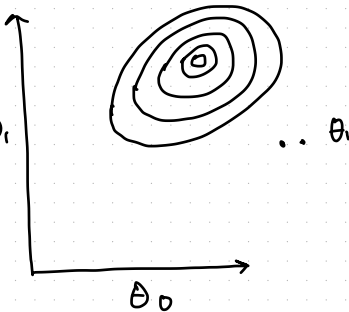


$X$	$y$	$\hat{y} = f(x, \theta)$
$x_1$	$y_1$	$\hat{y}_1$
$\vdots$		$\vdots$
$\vdots$		$\vdots$
$\vdots$		$\vdots$
$x_N$	$y_N$	$\hat{y}_N$

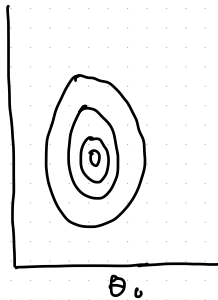
CONSIDER  
Individual  
data points  
to compute  
loss



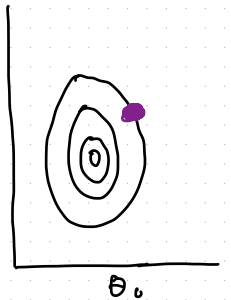
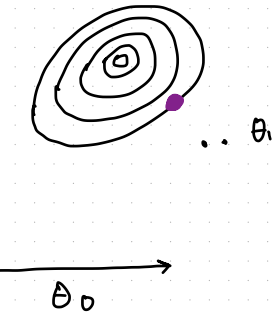
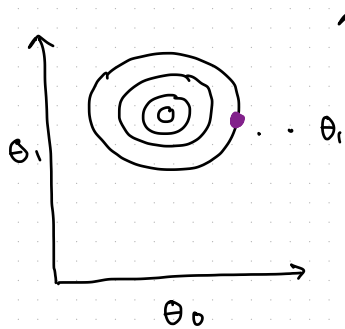
$$\text{loss}(y_1, \hat{y}_1)$$

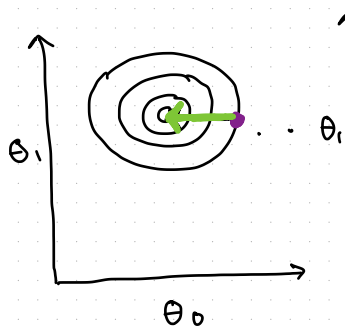


$$\text{loss}(y_i, \hat{y}_i)$$

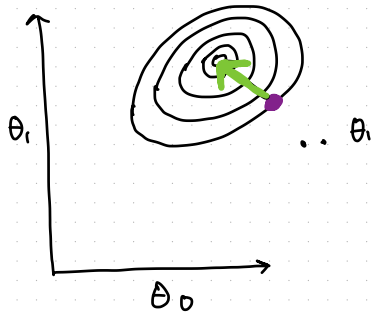


$$\text{loss}(y_N, \hat{y}_N)$$

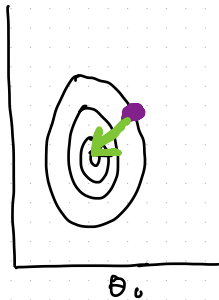




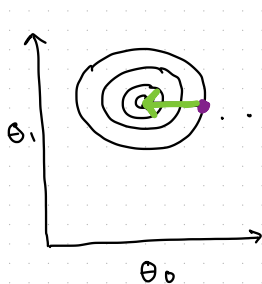
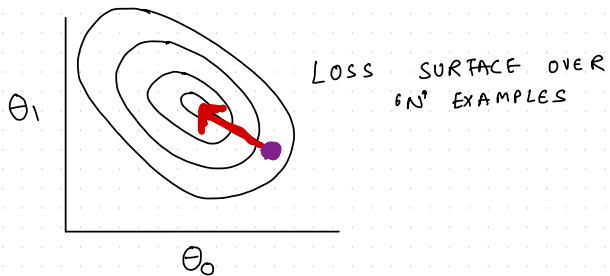
$$\text{loss}(y_1, \hat{y}_1)$$



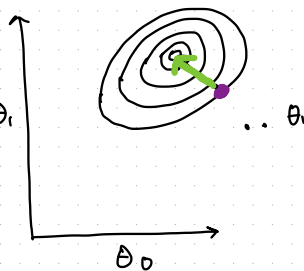
$$\text{loss}(y_i, \hat{y}_i)$$



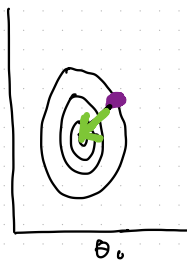
$$\text{loss}(y_N, \hat{y}_N)$$



$$\text{loss}(y_1, \hat{y}_1)$$



$$\text{loss}(y_i, \hat{y}_i)$$



$$\text{loss}(y_N, \hat{y}_N)$$



$\nabla L$



$\nabla l_1$



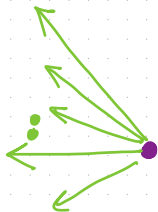
$\nabla l_i$

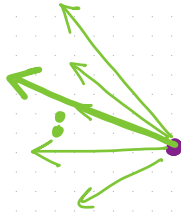


$\nabla l_n$



— Gradients for  
losses w.r.t  
different  
points

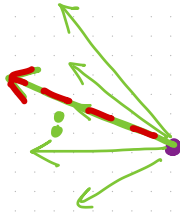




— Gradients for  
losses w.r.t  
different  
points

— Expectation  
over  
individual  
gradients





— Gradients for  
losses wrt  
different  
points

— Expectation  
over  
individual  
gradients

— Gradient  
wrt.  
whole  
data

## **Time Complexity: Gradient Descent v/s Normal Equation for Linear Regression**

---

# Normal Equation

- Consider  $X \in \mathcal{R}^{N \times D}$

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- $N$  examples and  $D$  dimensions

# Normal Equation

- Consider  $X \in \mathcal{R}^{N \times D}$
- $N$  examples and  $D$  dimensions
- What is the time complexity of solving the normal equation  $\hat{\theta} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y$ ?

## Normal Equation

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- Scales cubic in the number of columns/features of  $X$

# Gradient Descent

Start with random values of  $\theta_0$  and  $\theta_1$

Till convergence

- $\theta_0 = \theta_0 - \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_0} (\sum \epsilon_i^2)$

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$$\begin{aligned}& \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (y - X\theta)^\top (y - X\theta) \\&= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (y^\top - \theta^\top X^\top) (y - X\theta) \\&= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (y^\top y - \theta^\top X^\top y - y^\top X\theta + \theta^\top X^\top X\theta) \\&= -2X^\top y + 2X^\top X\theta \\&= 2X^\top (X\theta - y)\end{aligned}$$

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All of the above need only be calculated once!

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For each of the  $t$  iterations, we now need to first multiply  $\alpha X^\top X$  with  $\theta$  which is matrix multiplication of a  $D \times D$  matrix with a  $D \times 1$ , which is  $\mathcal{O}(D^2)$

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$$\mathcal{O}(tD^2) + \mathcal{O}(D^2N) = \mathcal{O}((t + N)D^2)$$

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